

TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

Published every evening, Sunday excepted, by the Tonopah Bonanza Printing Co., Incorporated.

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Terms of Subscription for the Daily Bonanza

One Year, by Mail \$12.00 One Month Delivered by Carrier \$2.00
Six Months \$6.00 In Tonopah \$1.00
One Month 1.00 Single Copies, each .10

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Entered at the postoffice at Tonopah as second class matter
Official Paper for the County of Nye and the Town of Tonopah

Debt Refunding.

Democratic senators criticize President Harding's selection for membership of the allied debt refunding commission only because one of their own political faith was not included. They are wise enough not to question the qualifications of Messrs. Mellon, Hughes, Hoover, Smith and Burton. It would be interesting to receive from them a list of Democrats any one of whom might be substituted for one of the Republicans to the improvement of the commission. But they will make no such suggestions simply because there are none better equipped than the President's appointees to conduct the delicate negotiations which must be undertaken. There is no place in the refunding operations for mere politics. It is business of serious kind and the character of the five gentlemen selected gives assurance that partisan politics will not enter into their consideration of it. Responsibility for making the best possible arrangements rests on the administration. It cannot be shirked. This is the sufficient reason for the President's selection of five men in whom he and the country can repose absolute confidence.

People who believe that the refunding commission will devise a process for early discharge of their obligations by our war debtors are going to be disappointed. An indication of the difficulties they will encounter is given in the news that Great Britain, the most capable financially of the debtors, contemplates making in the near future only a relatively small cash payment on account of over-due interest and that she will tender bonds in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000,000, whereas she owes approximately \$5,000,000,000. Others will be able to do less. But the commission is not in fact a collecting body. Its business will be to make some arrangement for repayment which will enable our government to appraise these claims. That being done we can go ahead more confidently with our own financing. How slow actual collection will be any American may calculate from a reasonable conclusion as to the length of time it will take the United States government to retire all of its indebtedness, not forgetting that this country can raise more money by taxation than any other.

Democrats Dumb to President's Appeal.

When President Harding submitted to the United States Senate the treaties formulated by the conference for the limitation of armament he said, with reference to their ratification:

"Your government encouraged and has signed compacts which it had much to do in fashioning. If to these advanced expressions of the conscience of the leading powers, if to these concords to guard against conflict and lift the burdens of armament, if to all these the senate will not advise consent, then it will be futile to try again."

It begins to be very apparent that, in so far as the Wilson wing of the Democratic party is concerned, the President's words fell upon deaf ears. There can be no longer any doubt of a well defined purpose upon the part of the Democratic organization to conduct a filibuster against the ratification of the several treaties now before the senate. It has long been rumored and predicted that this would happen. Newspaper correspondents in the confidence of the Wilson Democrats predicted six weeks or two months ago that the Democratic party machinery—which is admittedly in the control of the Wilson-McAdoo faction—would do all within its power to delay and defeat the ratification of the work of the Washington conference.

The first concrete evidence of this came upon the vote to ratify the treaty with Japan regarding the island of Yap. An analysis of the rollcall of the senate shows the coterie of senators known as the "Wilson crowd" to have lined up solidly against the ratification of the Yap treaty. The next bit of evidence was presented in the speech of Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, opposing the ratification of the four-power treaty. Senator Hitchcock is ranking Democratic member of the senate committee on foreign relations and along with Senator Claude Swanson, of Virginia, also a member of the committee, is recognized as one of the Wilson crowd.

On the same day of Hitchcock's speech occurred the Tumulty-Cox dinner in Washington. This was the

crowning bit of evidence of a split in the Democratic party over the treaties, in which it was perfectly apparent that the Wilson-McAdoo crowd were against the treaties and were prepared to "outlaw" those Democrats who are in favor of their ratification. Attending this dinner were the old Wilson guard, captained by Tumulty, and the McAdoo guard, captained by former Internal Revenue Commissioner Daniel C. Roper. Senators Hitchcock, Pat Harrison and Robinson represented the upper branch of the congress at this dinner and the conference which followed it. The highly significant feature about the dinner was the absence of Senator Oscar Underwood, the official Democratic leader in the senate, who was a member of the American delegation at the armament conference, and who stands unalterably in favor of the ratification of the treaties formulated by that conference. Another conspicuous Democratic senator who was not at the dinner was Senator Pomerene, of Ohio, who is also in favor of the ratification of the treaties.

Labor Politics.

Many of the best friends of labor have been or are being alienated by the failure of labor leaders in the face of economic facts to give evidence of wise and farsighted direction of labor policies.

For the last fifteen months the bituminous coal industry has been stagnant. The total production for 1921—407,000,000 tons—is the lowest record for ten years. Yet during this time in the face of widespread industrial depression the heavy liquidation of agricultural producers and other industries, of increasing unemployment and the closing of mine operations throughout the central competitive district, the leaders of the United Mine Workers have stubbornly refused to even consider a reduction in wage scale, a wage scale which is based on a minimum of \$7.50 per day and is at the very peak level of war-time wages.

The inevitable result of this policy is evident. And the non-union districts where a reduction in wages was possible new records of coal production have been made and non-union coal has not only dominated all of the nearby markets but has successfully invaded markets at remote distances underselling the local production and closing down hundreds of mine operations. The policy of the labor leaders has been the direct cause of decreasing the number of men employed in the industry and of decreasing the time of employment for those working in mines which were not shut down. This policy has caused an increase of suffering and is weakening the labor organizations.

The United Mine Workers during the last twenty years has been a dominating influence both in the anthracite and bituminous coal industries and in these basic and essential industries the power of the labor unions has been almost complete.

The real strength of the United Mine Workers and the success of the organization has been due primarily to the fact that in many coal mining districts the operators have considered the establishment of a uniform wage scale through negotiations between the representatives of the coal operators and of the central labor organizations to be of very definite benefit to their own interests. The coal operators have considered the wage scale as the one stable item in a series of varying and widely different costs and have believed that the uniform wage furnished some protection to them from cut-throat competition and vicious underselling of the markets.

The extent to which this feeling prevailed among coal operators made opposition less radical to the check-off system whereby the operators deduct from the pay envelopes the dues of the labor union, thereby making every worker of necessity a contributing member of the labor organization. The check-off system has given the labor unions a large income and the possibility of levying special assessments at any time.

Western Mining Review.

The copper depression is the worst in six years with limited sales at 13 cents a pound, says the Manufacturer.

Lead prices show trade stability with increasing demands with prices standing since September around 4.70 and 4.75.

LIFE TERMER HOLDS GRUDGE NO LONGER

The Bonanza is in receipt of a letter from Fred E. Skinner, who is serving a life term in state prison, having been sent up from Nye county, in which the writer shows his appreciation of this paper. The letter is a masterpiece in English, and goes to show that the man is a deep student of human affairs and holds no animosity against being compelled to "pay the price" of his recklessness. It is well worth reading:

Carson City, Nevada.
Mr. W. W. Booth,
Tonopah, Nevada.
Dear Sir:

Please take my name from that list of undesirables, commonly referred to by newspaper publishers as "delinquents," and place me on the honor roll. Am enclosing herewith \$10 in support of this request.

Today marks the end of my fourteenth year behind the walls of the Nevada state prison. And as I endeavor to recall the past I am wondering if, in the passing of these years, time has melted to any appreciable degree that feeling of former days in Tonopah. I would like to know that Father Time, in his onward march, has tempered the old animosity existing in the hearts of the living characters in that tragedy of my life, even as he has erased from my mind all malice. For today I can say, with a full realization of all that the words imply, I harbor no ill feeling toward anyone. I simply feel that I have, by these years of ostracism, paid the price; and when society acknowledges it has been avenged; when those in authority are satisfied and the gates to freedom are opened to me, I will go forth resolved to live out the balance of my allotted span on this mundane sphere with honest motives in an effort to retrieve lost prestige and the reclaiming of a name shrouded in shame.

Please believe me sincere in my good wishes for you and yours. As your shadow continues to lengthen toward the rising sun, may you prosper in the field of journalism in proportion as you mete out justice.

Yours respectfully,
FRED E. SKINNER.

California, Nevada, Montana, Idaho, Colorado and New Mexico remain strong in market for mining securities, with gold production falling.

The world silver markets remain firm with increasing demands from India and increasing exports from Mexico to our country.

With May wheat at \$1.40 and the general increase in farm commodity prices, all kinds of metal mining interests begin to advance.

WHAT PROHIBITION HAS DONE TO STATE

The last report of the Nevada state prison filed in the office of the secretary of state shows that on January 1 the number of prisoners in the institution was 139. Ten were admitted during January and one was discharged, leaving the number of inmates the first of February 148, with a daily average of 144.2 for the first month of the year 1922. The increase over the record for January, 1921, is nearly 50 per cent. A year ago January 1 the number of inmates was 98. Three new prisoners were received that month and one was discharged, making the total number 101 on the first of February, 1921, an average of 99.6 for each day of January a year ago.

BRONCHOSCOPE NAME CURIOUS INSTRUMENT

(By Associated Press)
PHILADELPHIA, Mar. 14.—Publicity attached to the recent successful operation on a little Kansas City girl here for the removal of a pin from her bronchus, has drawn attention to a curious surgical instrument invented for such a purpose. While the instrument, the bronchoscope, as it is called, is little known to the lay public, physicians said its use for the removal of foreign objects from the lungs and stomach is quite common and that clinics are held throughout the country.

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